

Tom Horne
Superintendent

N·E·W·S

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Contact: Amy Rezzonico, Press Secretary
(602) 542-5072 or (602) 708-1465

Monday, April 21, 2003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUPERINTENDENT TOM HORNE ANNOUNCES IMPORTANT GUIDELINES ON REPORTING CHILD ABUSE AND PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT

PHOENIX (Monday, April 21, 2003) -- Superintendent Tom Horne tomorrow will hold a press conference to announce a reporting procedures manual designed to guide Arizona's professional educators through the process of reporting allegations of child abuse and professional misconduct to the appropriate authorities. The reporting manual guides school personnel as to what must be reported and to whom these reports should be made.

"Protecting the health and welfare of students is the most important and fundamental responsibility of every professional educator," said Superintendent Tom Horne. "These laws include important guidelines on reporting allegations of child abuse and professional misconduct. Failure to comply with these laws can result in the needless victimization of children, and may also lead to criminal and administrative proceedings against those who fail to make the required reports."

The press conference will be held at the Arizona Department of Education in conjunction with the Arizona State Board of Education Investigative Unit.

**WHO: SUPERINTENDENT TOM HORNE TO ANNOUNCE
GUIDELINES ON REPORTING CHILD ABUSE AND
PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT**

**WHERE: ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
4TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM # 417
1535 WEST JEFFERSON**

DATE: TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2003

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

###